

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6152

BILL NUMBER: HB 1331

NOTE PREPARED: Mar 13, 2003

BILL AMENDED: Feb 6, 2003

SUBJECT: State Flag for Survivors of a Deceased Officer.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Adams

FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. C. Meeks

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 2nd House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: The bill provides that a state flag be presented to the family of a public safety officer who is killed in the line of duty.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Summary of Net State Impact: The impact of this bill is approximately \$175, which would likely be absorbed by either the State Emergency Management Agency or Department of Administration budget.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) This bill provides for the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) to present a state flag to the surviving spouse, child, or parent of a public safety officer who dies in the line of duty. The bill defines a public safety officer as a firefighter, emergency medical service provider, county and deputy sheriff, town and deputy town marshal, paramedic, local and state police, police reserve, correctional, excise police, conservation enforcement, university police, and probation officers.

According to the Public Employees Retirement Fund, a total of 29 claims have been filed under the Special Death Benefit Fund and Police and Firefighters Special Death Benefit Funds since FY1999. An average of six public safety officers died in the line of duty per year in that time.

The SEMA may incur additional administrative expenses in implementing the provisions of this bill. The SEMA may incur costs associated with having a hearing as it may adopt rules to implement this bill. This cost is estimated to be less than \$200. However, this bill as amended, also includes firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and paramedics who work in a volunteer capacity. The additional fiscal impact of including these three types of public safety officers should be minimal as it too is dependent on the number

of such individuals who die in the line of duty.

Either the SEMA or the Department of Administration would incur the cost for supplying the state flag, which currently costs \$29.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State Emergency Management Agency, Department of Administration.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Brad Gavin, State Emergency Management Agency; Ed Gohmann, Public Employees Retirement Fund; Chuck Coffey, Department of Administration.

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